



Year 11 Transition Guide



What is this leaflet?

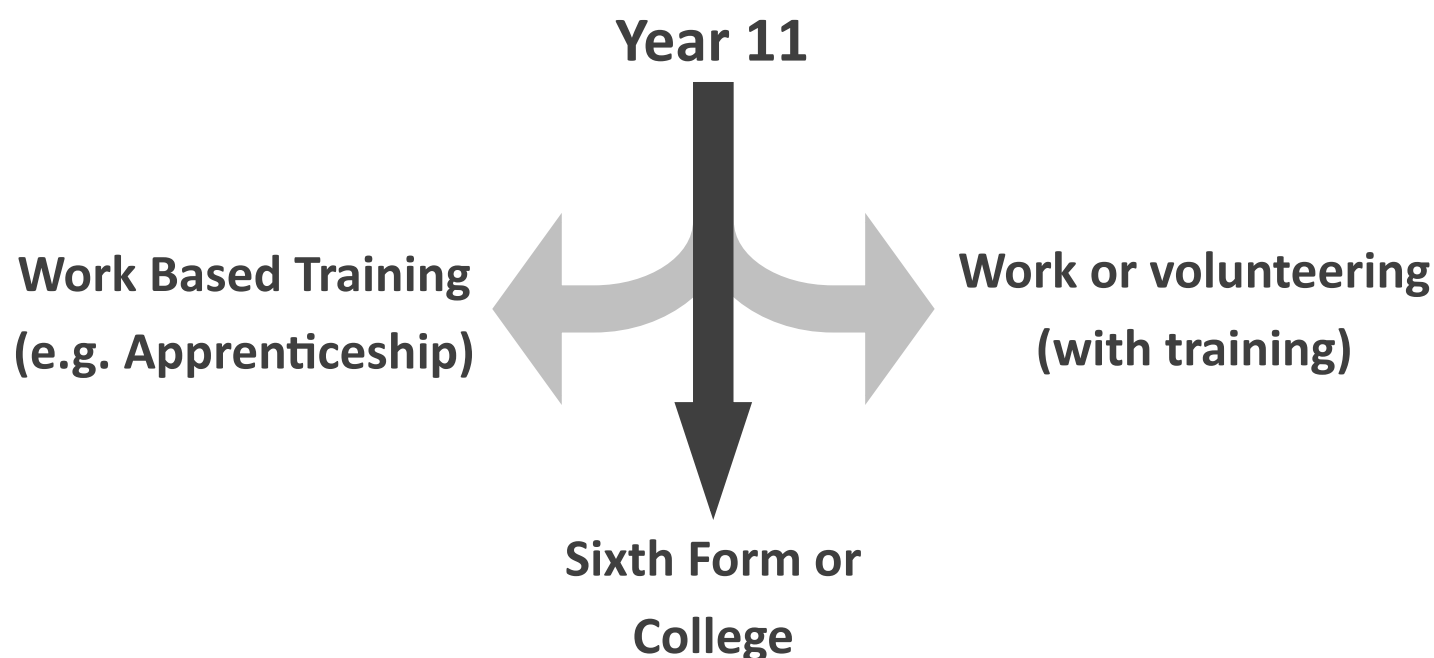
Deciding on what to do after Year 11 can be tricky, so we have put together this leaflet to give you some information about possible options and where you can look to find even more advice.

This leaflet is by no means comprehensive; there are loads of options out there. The purpose of this is to get you thinking. If you have any specific questions or would like some help or advice, you can always contact Mr Towsey.

Raising the Participation Age

You are now expected to stay in education or training until your 18th Birthday.

This does not necessarily mean that you will have to stay in school, but you have three main options:



The different routes will appeal to different people. Think about which one would be the best for you.

Hopefully you will have already decided on a route, even if you have not actually applied.

However, if you have not applied, you are strongly encouraged to do so as soon as possible.

What subject(s) should I choose?

This is entirely your decision, but it is a very important decision.

Whilst you should choose subjects you enjoy and are interested in; if you are thinking about going onto University you should probably find out whether you will be required to study certain A-Level subjects, in order to study certain courses at University.

For example, if you are thinking of studying Economics at university, you will usually be required to study A-Level Maths and/or Economics.

To find out about the required subjects, you can have a look on the UCAS website and search for specific courses (search.ucas.com). You will be able to see the entry requirements and whether you need specific A-Level subjects.

If you are looking at possible College courses you might find that they link with specific careers (e.g. 'Level 3 Beauty Therapy', 'Level 2 Plumbing' or 'Level 3 Extended Diploma Fitness Instructor'). This would then help you decide which course to take, based on your career ambitions.

Also make sure you know what the course will involve and what it will cover. A computing course, for example, might not necessarily cover computer programming or networking. You can check the course outlines or the awarding body's (e.g. Edexcel, AQA) website for more information.

You can also speak to Mr Towsey for some advice on what subjects you might want/need to pick.

Transition Calendar

You've got a lot to cram into this year and time will fly. You can't really afford to leave things to the last minute.

YOU HAVE LESS THAN 10 MONTHS LEFT!

Autumn Term

September 2019	Read this booklet and start thinking about options after Year 11. Come up to the Careers Centre, or speak to Mr Towsey, if you've got any questions or need some more information.
October 2019	Start making a note of Open Days/Evenings dates for Colleges and Sixth Forms. You will also have a Revision Day and Information Evening, so keep an eye out for more details.
November 2019	Most Sixth Forms and Colleges will hold an Open Days/Evening in November, so make sure you attend some of those you are thinking about applying to. You will also have a set of PPEs to complete in November; we will use these grades for your Sixth Form and College references.
December 2019	Start completing some of your Sixth Form, College and apprenticeship applications (remember, you can apply to as many as you wish)

Spring Term

January 2020	Come along to the Careerfest on the 30th and check out the Sixth Forms, Colleges, Apprenticeship providers and employers who will be attending. You'll also have a Parents Evening in January.
February 2020	There may be Open Days at some Colleges, if you wanted one more look around. If you couldn't manage to make it to an Open Day, why not contact the College or Sixth Form and see if you could have a look around at another point? You will also complete another set of PPEs.
March 2020	Transition Day is in March. This is where we will confirm the subjects you have applied for at West Hatch Sixth Form, or will be your opportunity to discuss your options, if you have not applied for West Hatch Sixth Form.
April 2020	By now all your applications should have been completed, so you will be able to focus on your revision and exam preparation!

Summer Term

May 2020	Revision, Exams and Leavers Day (the end is in sight!)
June 2020	Exams will be in full-swing, but should be finished by the end of June!
July 2020	Try to get some Work Experience or volunteer during the Summer: this is a fantastic thing to add to your CV and a good time to do it!
August 2020	Results Day! Confirm your Apprenticeship, College or Sixth Form place.

Dates to Remember
(Make a note of them)

Qualifications & Levels

Some College and Sixth Form courses will mention a specific level for the course or qualification you will gain (e.g. 'Level 3 Extended Diploma' or 'Level 2 Advanced Business'). It is important to understand what the levels actually mean, because this could help you decide which course would be best for you.

If you have a Level 1 qualification (5 GCSEs grades 3-1), you should apply for a Level 2 course.
If you have a Level 2 qualification (5 GCSEs grades 9-4), you should apply for a Level 3 course.

All A-Level courses are classed as a Level 3 qualification and usually require a grade 6 in the subject (or a related subject) you wish to study.

After Year 11 you will probably be looking at starting a Level 3 course, depending on your results and the course you are applying for. Some courses, such as motor mechanics, might require you to start at Level 1, despite your results, because you have no prior experience of the course and the Level 1 equips you with the basic knowledge needed to progress. Other courses will simply be based on the number of GCSEs you have achieved. Entry requirements are usually based on five GCSEs, including English and Maths at grade 4 or above.

As you can see, whilst grades 4 and above at GCSEs would leave you with the most options, there are still opportunities available if you do not manage to achieve grades 4 or above.

				LEVEL 7/8	
				LEVEL 6	
				LEVEL 5	
				LEVEL 4	
				LEVEL 3	
				LEVEL 2	
				LEVEL 1	
ENTRY LEVEL					
Entry Level Certificate	GCSEs (3-1)	BTEC Level 2	BTEC Level 3	BTEC Level 4	NVQ Level 5
Foundation Learning	BTEC Level 1	Intermediate Apprenticeship	Advanced Apprenticeship	NVQ Level 4	
	NVQ Level 1	NVQ Level 2	NVQ Level 3		
		A / AS Levels	International Baccalaureate	Certificate of Higher Education	Diploma of Higher Education
				Higher National Certificate	Foundation Degree
				Higher Apprenticeship	Degree Apprenticeship
					Graduate Certificate or Diploma
					Lvl. 6 Certificate, Award or Diploma
					NVQ Level 6
					Lvl. 8 Certificate, Award or Diploma
					Masters Degree
					Lvl. 7 Certificate, Award or Diploma
					Level 7 NVQ
					Doctorate (PhD)

BTECs or A-Level Mythbusting

Level 3 BTECs are equivalent to A-Levels: universities and employers will accept both. One is not necessarily better than the other, but they cover different subjects (BTECs tend to focus on specific subjects/topics, where as A-Levels tend to focus on broader subjects/topics).

It is important that you check the entry requirements for specific courses beforehand, as some require you to study specific subjects (such as biology and chemistry for medicine, or maths and physics for architecture)

GCSE Grades

Below is a table outlining the new GCSE grading system; you will now get a grade from 1-9, rather than A*-G. Whilst a grade 4 is a pass at GCSE; you should aim for a grade 5 or above, as this is considered a 'Good Pass'.

U	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
				4 = Pass	5 + = Good Pass				
U	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	A*	

Local Sixth Forms and Colleges

Below, and on the following page, are a list of local Sixth Forms and Colleges.

These lists are by no means exhaustive; there are lots more out there.

Hopefully this list will get you thinking. If you want to find out about some more potential destinations, please speak to Mr Towsey or simply Google 'Sixth Forms and Colleges in Chigwell/London/Essex'.

Access Creative www.accesscreative.ac.uk
ADA: The National College for Digital Skills Ada.ac.uk
Barking & Dagenham www.barkingdagenhamcollege.ac.uk
Barnet Southgate College www.barnetsouthgate.ac.uk
Big Creative Education Academy www.bigcreative.education
BRIT School www.brit.croydon.sch.uk
Building Craft College www.thebcc.ac.uk
Capel Manor College www.capel.ac.uk
City and Islington College www.candi.ac.uk
City of Westminster College www.cwc.ac.uk
College of Haringey, Enfield & North East London www.conel.ac.uk
East London Arts & Music Academy www.elam.co.uk
Elutec www.elutec.co.uk
Fashion Retail Academy www.fashionretailacademy.ac.uk
Harlow College www.harlow-college.ac.uk
Kensington & Chelsea College www.kcc.ac.uk
London College of Beauty Therapy www.lcbt.co.uk
London Design & Engineering UTC www.ldeutc.co.uk
New City College: Epping, Redbridge, Havering, Hackney & Tower Hamlets www.ncclondon.ac.uk
Newham College www.newham.ac.uk
Sir Simon Milton Westminster UTC www.westminsterutc.co.uk
Southbank Engineering UTC www.southbank-utc.co.uk
Waltham Forest College www.waltham.ac.uk
Westminster Kingsway College www.westking.ac.uk
Writtle College www.writtle.ac.uk

Anglo European
www.aesessex.co.uk

Bancrofts School
www.bancrofts.org

Beal High School
www.bealhighschool.co.uk

BMAT STEM Academy
www.bmatstemacademy.org

Caterham High School
www.ecaterham.net

Chigwell School
www.chigwell-school.org

Chingford Foundation
www.chingfordfoundation.org

Davenant Foundation
www.davenantschool.co.uk

Epping Forest District Sixth Form
www.efd6.net

Forest School
www.forest.org.uk

Heathcote School
www.heathcoteschool.com

Highams Park
www.highamsparkschool.co.uk

Ilford County High School
www.ichs.org.uk

Leventhorpe
www.leventhorpe.net

Leyton Sixth Form College
www.leyton.ac.uk

Loxford Sixth Form
www.loxford.net/sixth-form

Monoux Sixth Form College
www.sgmc.ac.uk

Oaks Park High School
oakspark.co.uk

Seven Kings School
www.sevenkings.school

St Marks RC Harlow
www.st-marks.essex.sch.uk

The Forest Academy
www.theforestacademy.org

Trinity Catholic High School
fc.tchs.uk.net

Valentines Sixth Form
www.valentines-sch.org.uk/sixth-form

Walthamstow Academy
www.walthamstow-academy.org

West Hatch High
www.westhatch.net

Woodbridge School
www.woodbridgehigh.co.uk

Woodford County High
www.woodford.redbridge.sch.uk



If you are thinking about applying for an Apprenticeship, you must check out this website:

www.apprenticeships.gov.uk

This will provide you with all the necessary information about Apprenticeships and it is where you can register and apply.

Apprenticeships are not simply for individuals interested in construction; there are now placements offered in a vast range of different industries.

They offer you the opportunity to 'earn whilst you learn' - the minimum wage for an apprentice (under 19) is £3.90 per hour, although some employers will pay more.

With an apprenticeship most of your time will be spent with on-the-job training, but at least 20% of your time will be spent with off the job training, often at a college or with a training provider.

It is important to note that whilst some colleges will offer apprenticeship training, this does not mean they will secure a placement with an employer. You are expected to find a job with an employer and the college will then provide the training and qualification. However, some colleges might be able to help you secure a placement with an employer.

There is a great deal of competition for apprenticeship places and vacancies are constantly being updated, so it is important to keep an eye out and apply for an apprenticeship as soon as possible.

Make sure you have registered on the apprenticeship website and start searching for possibly options now.

Applications and Personal Statements

Whether you are applying for Sixth Form, College or an Apprenticeship, you will need to submit an application form and you will most probably be required to write a 'personal statement'.

The personal statement is very important and is something which you will also need to include on your CV, when you are applying for jobs.

It should outline your hobbies and interests. This should encompass everything you do outside school.

It is worth having a think about what you could add and keeping a list of everything you are involved with.

Typical things, which you might want to add, could include:

- Playing for a sports team / involvement with sport
- Duke of Edinburgh (a fantastic thing to include!)
- Student Council
- School plays or productions
- After school clubs
- Prefects or position of responsibility within the school
- Volunteering

Think hard about everything you have been involved with. Sometimes you might want to say that you do nothing, but after a couple of minutes thinking you might soon realise you do more than initially thought.

If you are not involved in a great deal at the moment, you might want to think about things to get involved with after Year 11 - which you could add to your personal statement or CV at a later date.

It is also worth remembering that the school will usually be required to provide you with a reference for any Sixth Form, College or Apprenticeship position. As well as general comments, they might also be asked to comment on your attendance, punctuality and behaviour.

If you're struggling to think of things to add, you might want to start thinking about what you could get involved with and add to your application and CV. This year we will have the National Citizens Service coming in to talk about the opportunities with NCS over the Summer; this is a great thing to get involved with and to add to your CV and application forms!

Useful Websites

There are loads of really useful websites out there, but here are a few:

National Careers Service: nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk

AllAbout Careers: www.allaboutcareers.com

CareersBox: www.careersbox.co.uk

Careers Camel: www.careercamel.com

iCould: icould.com

Who to Contact?

If you have any questions about transitions, options or courses there are a number of different people you can contact and ask.

For any questions or queries related to external Sixth Forms or Colleges, you could contact them directly or have a look at their websites.

For any questions related to West Hatch Sixth Form, please speak to Mrs Sharma, Mrs Moore or a member of the Sixth Form Team.

You can also speak to your subject teachers, form tutors or Mr Orton.

Mr Towsey can also offer advice and information about the various options. He is based in the Careers Centre or you can e-mail him: gowsey@westhatch.net

The National Careers Service also offer careers advice. You can phone them (free) on: 0800 100 900.

My Choices

Apprenticeship College Sixth Form

Where will you apply?

Destination/Institution	Application Sent?	Interview Attended?	Confirmation Received?

A few words of advice ...if you don't know what to do.

Talk to your parents/carers, friends and family at home. In school you can speak to your teachers, Form Tutor, Mr Orton or Mr Towsey.

If you are not too sure about what career you would like to pursue, then keep your options open. Pick a mix of different subjects: a broad range of choices. Choose something which interests you, or you excel in.

An Apprenticeship might offer you the opportunity to try a specific career out and gain experience in a certain industry.

Do your research. Have a look on the internet and the UCAS website to find out whether you need specific qualifications for particular jobs or degrees.

The National Careers Service website (nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk) has a 'jobs profile' section which includes entry requirements for some careers.

If you are thinking about Sixth Form or College, make sure you have a look around. Attend the Open Days and check out their website and prospectus.